

**REMARKS**

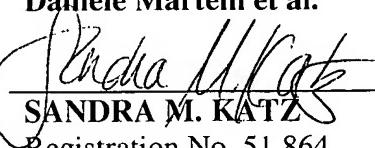
Claims 1-9 are presently pending in the application.

The Title has been amended as suggested by the Examiner to more accurately reflect the claimed invention. Further, claims 1 and 6-8 have been amended for consistency in the punctuation marks used to separate the reference numbers. No new matter has been added by these amendments, which are merely formal in nature, and entry after the *Ex parte Quayle* Action is respectfully requested.

Applicants acknowledge and appreciate the Examiner's indication in the present Office Action that the application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters. Namely, the Examiner has objected to the Title of the Invention as being non-descriptive of the invention, and has also objected to the claims due to the inconsistency in the punctuation marks. It is noted that the reference numerals were actually proper since semicolons were used to separate numerals in different embodiments, whereas commas were used to separate numerals in the same embodiment. In view of the present amendments, it is respectfully submitted that these objections have been overcome, and withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims are thus in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniele Martelli et al.

October 4, 2004 By:   
(Date) \_\_\_\_\_

SANDRA M. KATZ

Registration No. 51,864

AKIN GUMP STRAUSS HAUER & FELD LLP

One Commerce Square

2005 Market Street, Suite 2200

Philadelphia, PA 19103-7013

Telephone: 215-965-1200

Direct Dial: 215-965-1344

Facsimile: 215-965-1210

E-Mail: [skatz@akingump.com](mailto:skatz@akingump.com)

WWS/SMK:smk